

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 06778 01 OF 02 091758Z

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 IO-14 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AF-10

ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NASA-02 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-02

PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-15 /155 W

-----054548 091823Z /47

R 091725Z AUG 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0147

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 6778

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD: 760TH PLENARY MEETING, AUGUST 9, 1977

REF: GENEVA 6557 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: IN AUGUST 9 CCD PLENARY, SOVIET REP TO CCD TABLED
REVISED DRAFT TREATY (IDENTICAL TO TEXT CONTAINED REFTEL)
ON NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW). REPS OF CANADA
AND ITALY GAVE OVERALL STATEMENTS, EMPHASIZING NEED FOR
PROGRESS ON COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN (CTB) AND
CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW), AND SUPPORTING UK PROPOSAL FOR A
CONSENSUS UNGA RESOLUTION ON MDW. SWEDISH REP INTRODUCED
REPORT OF SEISMIC EXPERTS GROUP. END SUMMARY
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 06778 01 OF 02 091758Z

2. ADDRESSING AUGUST 9 CCD PLENARY, SOVIET REP
(LIKHACHEV) EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE CURRENT SERIES OF
MDW INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH EXPERTS "WILL MARK A
FURTHER STEP ON THE WAY TOWARDS PROHIBITION" OF NEW MDW.
REFERRING TO THE AUGUST 12, 1948 DEFINITION OF MDW REACHED
BY THE UN COMMISSION ON CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS, SOVIET REP

SAID THE USSR WILL USE THAT DEFINITION AS A BASIS FOR ELABORATING THE SCOPE OF AN MDW BAN, WHICH WOULD THUS APPLY TO NEW TYPES OF MDW WITH DESTRUCTIVE EFFECTS COMMENSURATE TO THOSE OF KNOWN MDW SUCH AS NUCLEAR, BIOLOGICAL, CHEMICAL WEAPONS. IN ADDITION, SOVIET REP SAID, SCOPE OF MDW PROHIBITION WOULD ALSO HAVE TO MENTION NEW MDW WHOSE DESTRUCTIVE EFFECTS EXCEED THOSE OF KNOWN MDW. ACCORDINGLY, THE SOVIET REP REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING WORDING IN THE REVISED DRAFT OF THE SOVIET MDW TTEATY (CCD/511/REV.1), WHICH HE INTRODUCED: QUOTE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS AGREEMENT, THE EXPRESSION "NEW TYPES AND SYSTEMS OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION" INCLUDES WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEVELOPED IN THE FUTURE, EITHER ON THE BASIS OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES THAT ARE KNOWN BUT THAT HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPLIED SEVERALLY OR JOINTLY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OR ON THE BASIS OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES THAT MAY BE DISCOVERED IN THE FUTURE, AND WHICH WILL HAVE PROPERTIES SIMILAR TO OR MORE POWERFUL THAN THOSE OF KNOWN TYPES OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION IN DESTRUCTIVE AND/OR INJURING EFFECT. UNQUOTE.

3. SOVIET REP WENT ON TO SAY THAT IN PARALLEL TO AN OVERALL AGREEMENT BANNING ALL MDW, "IT IS POSSIBLE TO CONCLUDE SPECIAL AGREEMENTS ON THE PROHIBITION OF SPECIFIC TYPES OF THOSE WEAPONS."

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 06778 01 OF 02 091758Z

4. SOVIET REP DESCRIBED EXAMPLES OF NEW MDW, AS SET FORTH IN FOLLOWING NEW ANNEX TO REVISED SOVIET DRAFT TREATY: QUOTE (1) RADIOLOGICAL MEANS OF THE NON-EXPLOSIVE TYPE ACTING WITH THE AID OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS; (2) TECHNICAL MEANS OF INFLECTING RADIATION INJURY BASED ON THE USE OF CHARGED OR NEUTRAL PARTICLES TO AFFECT BIOLOGICAL TARGETS; (3) INFRASONIC MEANS USING ACOUSTIC RADIATION TO AFFECT BIOLOGICAL TARGETS; (4) MEANS USING ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION TO AFFECT BIOLOGICAL TARGETS. THIS LIST OF TYPES AND SYSTEMS OF WEAPONS TO BE PROHIBITED MAY BE SUPPLEMENTED AS NECESSARY. UNQUOTE.

5. SUMMING UP, SOVIET REP SAID THAT USSR HAS THREEFOLD POSITION REGARDING MDW: (A) CONCLUSION FO COMPREHENSIVE BAN ON NEW MDW; (B) POSSIBILITY OF SUBSEQUENTLY ADDING TO THE LIST OF WEAPONS BANNED; (C) POSSIBILITY OF CONCLUDING SEPARATE SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS ON PARTICULAR TYPES OF NEW MDW.

6. CANADIAN REP (JAY), REFERRING TO YUGOSLAV PLENARY STATEMENT OF JULY 28, REGRETTEED THAT CCD WIL NOT BE ABLE TO CONDUCT MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS THIS SUMMER ON COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN (CTB) OR CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW)

AND STATED THAT CANADA IS "WATCHING ANXIOUSLY" FOR FRUITFUL CONCLUSION OF THE CW BILATERAL (US, USSR) AND CTB TRILATERAL (US, UK, USSR) TALKS. WITH REGARD TO THE PROVISIONS OF A CTB RELATING TO PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS (PNES), CANADIAN REP STATED THAT "UNLESS AND UNTIL SOME EFFECTIVE MEANS CAN BE DEvised TO MAKE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO WEAPONS RELATED TO BENEFITS FROM PNES, NO SUCH EXPLOSIONS SHOULD BE CONTEMPLATED UNDER A CTB TREATY."

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 06778 02 OF 02 091813Z
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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 6778

7. NOTING THAT "THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION FOR THE BELIEF THAT NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION BASED ON NEW APPLICATIONS OR NEW PRINCIPLES OF SCIENCE THREATEN TO APPEAR IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE," CANADIAN REP EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT THE SOVIET "UMBRELLA" APPROACH TO AN MDW BAN COULD BE OF ANY PRACTICAL VALUE. INSTEAD, CANADIAN REP EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR UK PROPOSAL FOR A UNGA RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MDW AND CALLING ON THE CCD TO KEEP THE MATTER UNDER REVIEW.

8. ITALIAN REP (DI BERNARDO), BRIEFLY MENTIONING THE MAY 18

SIGNING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION CONVENTION AND
THE JUNE 1977 REVIEW CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE SEABEDS
ARMS CONTROL TREATY, AS WELL AS PREPARATIONS FOR THE UNGA'S
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 06778 02 OF 02 091813Z

SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT (SSOD), DECLARED THAT IT
REMAINS ESSENTIAL FOR THE CCD TO GIVE CLEAR EVIDENCE OF
ITS LEADERSHIP ROLE IN DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS.
"UNFORTUNATELY, " HE SAID, "IT IS MY IMPRESSION THAT WE
ARE SINKING ONCE AGAIN INTO A LONG AND FRUSTRATING GENERAL
DEBATE, TO THE DETRIMENT OF OUR MAIN TASK, WHICH IS TO
NEGOTIATE MEASURES OF ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT ON
ISSUES OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE." ITALIAN REP DECLARED
THAT CTB NEGOTIATIONS ARE LONG OVERDUE; ALTHOUGH ITALY
WELCOMES THE CURRENT TRILATERAL CTB CONSULTATIONS, ITALIAN
REP STATED THAT HIS DELEGATION "SHARES THE VIEW THAT THE
CCD SHOULD START NEGOTIATION IN ORDER TO RECOGNIZE POINTS

OF CONVERGENCE IN THE DIFFERENT DRAFTS BEFORE US." STATING
THAT ITALY AWAITS "WITH IMPATIENCE" A POSITIVE OUTCOME OF
US-SOVIET CW BILATERALS, ITALIAN REP INDICATED REGRET THAT
A CW WORKING GROUP HAD NOT BEEN SET UP IN CCD, DECLARING
THAT "IF THE WORKING GROUP WERE REQUESTED TO CONCENTRATE
ON SOME SPECIFIC ISSUES, OR ON THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF
A CONVENTION, THE CCD WOULD HAVE BEEN IN A POSITION TO
PERFORM VERY VALUABLE WORK." ITALIAN REP THEN EXPRESSED
HOPE "THAT NO EFFORTS WILL BE SPARED TO GIVE THE CCD
ANOTHER CHANCE BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR."

9. ON MDW, ITALIAN REP DECLARED THE 1948 UN DEFINITION
TO BE "FULLY VALID AND OPERATIVE," AND INDICATED SUPPORT
FOR THE UK IDEA OF A UNGA RESOLUTION ON MDW WHICH COULD BE
ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS.

10. ITALIAN REP CONCLUDED BY CALLING FOR MORE ATTENTION
TO THE QUESTION OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS RESTRAINTS, REFERRING
TO THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT BY THE
SECURITY COUNCIL, UNDER UN CHARTER ARTICLE 29, OF A
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 06778 02 OF 02 091813Z

COMMITTEE DIVIDED INTO REGIONAL SUB-COMMITTEES, PARTICIPATED
IN BY THE MAJOR ARMS SUPPLIERS AND PURCHASERS FROM EACH
REGION (UN DOCUMENT A/AC.187/32).

11. SWEDISH REP (HAMILTON), INTRODUCING THE REPORT OF THE
AD HOC GROUP OF EISMIC EXPERTS WITH REGARD TO THE ROUND

OF MEETINGS WHICH CONCLUDED ON AUGUST 5, PRAISED PERU FOR HAVING SENT AN EXPERT TO JOIN IN THE WORK OF THE GROUP, AND REMARKED ON THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL PARTICIPATION ON THE PART OF EXPERTS FROM CENTRAL AMERICAN, SOUTH AMERICAN, AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES. HE PROPOSED THAT AT THE NEXT PLENARY ON AUGUST 11 OF THE CCD TAKE NOTE OF THE REPORT AND APPROVE THE DATES RECOMMENDED FOR THE NEXT SERIES OF MEETINGS (FEBRUARY 27 THROUGH MARCH 10, 1978).

12. NEXT PLENARY MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 11. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

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